August 4, 1999

Documents Branch
Food & Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane #1061
Rockville, MD 20852

I am writing you regarding my concerns with the draft document HFA-305 that proposes health providers initiate a HCV Lookback Program using a 1990 test. My concerns are two fold; the test has a high percentage rate of false positives and the document proposes providers will search historical records dating back indefinitely.

This program would be costly, benefits negligible and cause undue emotional distress and fright among our senior citizens.

Please consider a more proactive approach by having patients that were previously transfused be identified as they are admitted to the hospital or visit their doctors office and at that time be tested for HCV. This would be a more positive and economical approach.

Thank you for your consideration of my concerns.

Sincerely,

Freda Brown, MT(ASCP)

